

safer than they have ever been. That is our goal. It is our charge. Frankly, it is our responsibility. We are up to it in a bipartisan fashion with the whole Senate speaking as one voice. Next week we will be prepared to do that.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. JEFFORDS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MARION EIN LEWIN

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, today I want to pay tribute to Marion Ein Lewin, a prominent health policy analyst and the long-time director of the highly regarded Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship program. Marion is retiring from the fellowship program this year, after 14 years of dedicated service during which she guided and mentored scores of health care professionals from around the United States who took time off from their careers to participate in the policymaking process in Washington, DC. Her mixture of warmth, wisdom, and compassion will be sorely missed by future RWJ fellows and by the Members of Congress and the administration offices who have had the good fortune to work with Marion and the top-notch fellows she has overseen.

For almost 30 years, the RWJ Health Policy Fellowship program has selected a small group of leaders in America's academic health centers to participate in the development of America's health policy. RWJ Fellows come to Washington understanding health care delivery, and, during an extensive training program, they supplement their health care expertise with lessons about health policy and the process to develop that policy. This training and the unique opportunities created by working on the health staffs of Members of Congress and in the Executive Branch have allowed RWJ Fellows to participate in every major health care debate over the last 25 years.

Marion Ein Lewin has served as the guiding light for the last 14 classes of RWJ Fellows. As teacher, mentor and policy analyst, Marion has helped new Fellows understand the history and opportunities of health policy. She has introduced Fellows to the most important health policy thinkers in the country. The greatest testament to her extraordinary impact is the warmth and fondness departing Fellows feel for her.

Appropriately, Marion's experience in health policy began in a Member's office. She served as the Legislative Assistant for Health for Congressman James H. Scheurer (D-NY), where she

helped develop legislation and performed all the activities of a Congressional staffer.

Though Marion is known for her grace and warmth, she has made substantial contributions to the annals of American health policy. Marion's broad experience in health policy was bolstered by stints at the American Enterprise Institute and the National Health Policy Forum. She became director of the AEI Center for Health Policy Research before joining the Institute of Medicine. While at AEI, Marion edited five texts on health policy.

During her 14 years on the staff of the Institute of Medicine, Marion served as the study director for three IOM reports on critical issues ranging from improving Medicare, to the impact of information on the development of health policy, to the status of safety net providers. While at the IOM, she also directed the Pew Health Policy Fellowship.

Now, after 14 years, Marion Ein Lewin has decided to leave her pivotal role in the Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship. Her influence upon the 85 Fellows who served during her tenure is indelible. She has overseen the transformation of academic faculty into reasonable facsimiles of congressional health LAs. Fellows have provided my staff and me incalculable assistance over the years, and I know other Members of Congress and the administration share my appreciation. Marion's guidance has enabled these Fellows to make these valuable contributions as we seek to improve the healthcare system in our country.

Through the dint of her long service and extraordinary knowledge of health policy, Marion has come to personify the Fellowship and its values. It is hard to imagine the Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellowship without Marion Ein Lewin. Mr. President, I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in congratulating Marion and the Robert Wood Johnson Program on their many successes, and sending a heartfelt thank you for her many years of dedicated service. Marion has made a genuine difference in health care. We wish her well and expect her to continue her good work as she enters this new phase in her life.

IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, I am grateful to President Chen Shui-bian and Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China on Taiwan for their support of the United States in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington.

Taiwan was one of the first countries to declare its unequivocal support and cooperation with the United States, and deserves our gratitude for its firm stand with us.

In offering us whatever we need to combat worldwide terrorism, Taiwan has demonstrated its unity with Amer-

ica during our time of grief. During this period of turmoil and anxiety, I remind my colleagues that Taiwan will mark its National Day on October 10.

In recent years Taiwan has sought to return to the United Nations. I believe we should give Taiwan our support. The Republic of China on Taiwan is a democracy guaranteeing rights to all its citizens; it is one of the most important economic entities in the world; and despite its small population, 23 million people, Taiwan has financial resources surpassing those of many western countries.

Sadly, the international community accords Taiwan less recognition than many other non-state entities, including the terrorist Palestine Liberation Organization.

As the people of Taiwan, the East Asian region's leading free market democracy, celebrate their National Day on October 10, we should commend them for their successes and encourage other nations to support Taiwan's participation and membership in international organizations.

COMMON SENSE ON FIFTY CALIBER WEAPONS

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, long-range fifty caliber sniper weapons are among the most powerful firearms legally available. According to a rifle catalogue cited in a 1999 report by minority staff on the House Government Reform committee, one manufacturer touted his product's ability to "wreck several million dollars' worth of jet aircraft with one or two dollars' worth of cartridge." Some fifty caliber ammunition is even capable of piercing several inches of metal or exploding on impact.

These weapons are not only powerful, but they're accurate. According to the Government Reform staff report, the most common fifty caliber weapon can accurately hit targets a mile away and can inflict damage to targets more than four miles away.

Despite these facts, long-range fifty caliber weapons are less regulated than handguns. Buyers must simply be 18 years old and submit to a Federal background check. In addition, there is no Federal minimum age for possessing a fifty caliber weapon and no regulation on second-hand sales.

Given the facts on fifty caliber weapons, I'm pleased that Senator FEINSTEIN has introduced a bill, which I have cosponsored, that would change the way they're regulated. Senator FEINSTEIN's bill would ensure that fifty caliber weapons could only be legally purchased through licensed dealers. Her bill would also ensure that they could not be purchased second-hand. Buyers would have to fill out license transfer applications with the ATF, supply fingerprints and submit to a detailed FBI criminal background check. By any measure Senator FEINSTEIN's bill makes sense and I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring the bill.